

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Special Olympics South Dakota is in its 36th year of providing sports training and competition for 1,700 athletes 8 years of age and older in South Dakota who are mentally/developmentally disabled; and,

Whereas, The city of Spearfish is prepared to welcome over 500 athletes, 250 coaches, 500 volunteers, along with family and friends to a beautiful setting in the Black Hills on the campus of Black Hills State University (BHSU) on May 13 – 15, 2004; and,

Whereas, Thirty-three delegations will come from communities across the state to compete in aquatics, track and field, individual soccer skills, powerlifting, race walking, team soccer, and volleyball events; and,

Whereas, The Games also boast the pageantry and excitement of the opening ceremonies, lighting of the Special Olympics Flame of Hope, two victory dances, a banquet and numerous awards ceremonies; and,

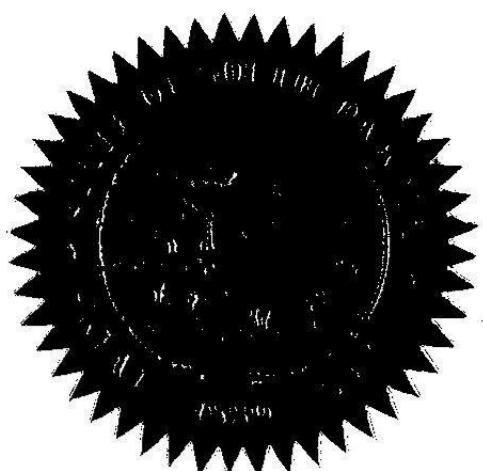
Whereas, The Law Enforcement Torch Run will be a part of this year's Special Olympics with a kick-off event in Sioux Falls on May 10 and continue through May 13 as they make their way across the state to arrive in Spearfish for the opening ceremony at 7 p.m. at the BHSU Young Center on Thursday, May 13, 2004; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for the Governor to recognize the significance of the Special Olympics South Dakota 2004 Summer Games and congratulate all participants:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 9-15, 2004, as

SPECIAL OLYMPICS WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-eighth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

A handwritten signature of M. Michael Rounds.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature of Chris Nelson.

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State